

Amendment to Specification

Please amend paragraph [16], which begins on page 3 and ends on page 4, as follows:

A plurality of pistons 20 are distributed around a centerline of the pump and oriented parallel to one another and to drive shaft 16. In the illustrated embodiment, there are preferably seven pistons; however, those skilled in the art will appreciate that a pump having any number of pistons could be suitable for use in relation to the present invention. Each individual piston 20 defines a hollow interior 21, and is attached via a ball joint to a shoe 29 that is maintained in contact with drive plate 17 via the continuous urging of a return spring 25. Rotation of drive plate 17 causes the plurality of pistons to serially reciprocate between up and down positions, displacing fluid in a conventional manner. Each of the pistons 20 also includes a hollow interior 21, which can be thought of as a portion of that piston's pumping chamber, and at least one spill port 26 distributed around the periphery of the piston and opening into hollow interior 21. One end of each of the pistons is slidably received in a plunger bore 64 defined by a barrel assembly 18. Together, plunger bore 64 and hollow interior 21 define the pumping chamber for the individual piston. This pumping chamber is separated from a ring shaped high pressure collection cavity 19 in barrel assembly 18 by a check valve 23. In other words, the plunger bore 64 for each piston is separated from ring shaped collection cavity 19 by a separate check valve 23. Ring shaped collection cavity 19 is fluidly connected to outlet 15 via a passage that is not shown, but fluidly isolated from a central bore 67.